12/22/63

O Almighty and Eternal God, thou who hast created and sustained us we praise thy Holy Name. We worship thee our Father - For thou art our refuge and strength: we bow before thy power and majesty; we are humble before thy wisdom and providence And O Lord, in this glorious season we are joyful before the unspeakable gift of the Christ Child. Help us O Lord, as we celebrate his birth - to understand the full meaning of what thou hast done for us. Help us to see through the distractions of the celebration to the pure clear light of thy love.

O God our Father, we are made humble, by the thought of all thou hast done for us. We thank thee for the good gift of life - for homes and Families - for loved ones and neighbors. At this time O Lord, we are thankful for the small things that we take for granted:- for all the services performed for us, by our Fellow men. We thank thee our Father for those we meet in the busyness of life: for those whose work provides us with our daily needs: for those whose pleasantness and good will makes life worth while.

O thou who art merciful + kind, we pray on behalf of those less Fortunate than we. Be with the men and women in our armed forces - seperated from families + loved ones in this Christmas season. Be with those who hunger + thirst - with the sick and downtrodden. And O Lord, be with those who are denied the opportunity + joy of celebrating the birth of thy son.

Finally, Our ~~Lord~~ Father, we pray for the gift of thy Holy Spirit; that as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, the Flame of Faith may be rekindled in our hearts. Help us O Lord, to sustain the joy and exuberance of Christmas throughout the year. Help us to sustain the deep feelings of love and concern we experience in this season. Help us to celebrate the coming of Jesus Christ into the world - not only today but every day.

All this we pray in the name of Him who reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit - world without end. Now hear us as we pray the prayer he taught his disciples saying: ~~Amen~~